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(19)



(54) IMPROVEMENTS IN OR RELATING TO SEATS

(71) We, STOREY BROTHERS AND COMPANY LIMITED, a British Company of White Cross, Lancaster LA1 4XH, England, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:-

This invention relates to the so-called sack or bean bag seats.

Known sack or bean bag seats comprise a suitably shaped bag, usually drum shaped surmounted by a cone partially filled with beads or granules of expanded polystyrene or similar material. As a person sits on such a seat the beads or granules move about and the seat adjusts itself to the contours of the body in a sitting position, for example, sitting upright or lounging, giving a very comfortable and cheap seat.

These seats do, however, suffer from the disadvantage that, as the filling readily moves about under pressure, it can be rather difficult to get out of the seat as there is usually nothing on which to get a firm grip.

It has now been found that this problem can be overcome by enclosing at least the lower part of the seat in a rigid or semi-rigid body or forming a rigid body to act as at least the lower part of the seat. This makes the seat appreciably firmer and thereby easier to get out of whilst retaining its comfort and figure-moulding properties.

According to the invention there is provided a sack or bean bag seat comprising a bag of material partially filled with beads or granules, which seat has at least its lower part enclosed in or formed from a rigid or semi-rigid body.

Bags used in the making of sack or bead bag seats can be made from a suitable fabric which allows air to escape via the pores of the fabric itself or, if the fabric is stitched, the stitch holes or the stitched seams of the fabric as the seat becomes compressed under a persons weight. An advantageous fabric for sack or bean bag

seats is leathercloth. It is essential that a certain amount of air should escape to allow the seat to adjust itself to the shape of the seated body.

The bag part of the seat can be stitched or bonded to the periphery of the rigid or semi-rigid body which can be made from any suitable material, advantageously basketwork.

The rigid or semi-rigid body can, for example, simply be in the form of a container such as a tub or half-barrel, or alternatively, it can be shaped to give a back and/or arm rests etc.

The invention enables sophisticated and comfortable seats to be made which are also cheap.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:-

1. A sack or bean bag seat comprising a bag of material partially filled with beads or granules, which seat has at least its lower part enclosed in or formed from a rigid or semi-rigid body.

2. A seat as claimed in Claim 1 in which the rigid or semi-rigid body is half-barrel shaped.

3. A seat as claimed in Claim 1 in which the rigid or semi-rigid body is shaped to give a back and/or arm rests.

4. A seat as claimed in any preceding claim in which the rigid or semi-rigid body is made from basketwork.

5. A seat as claimed in any preceding claim in which the bag is made from leathercloth.

6. A seat as claimed in any preceding claim in which the bag has pores which enable air to escape when the seat is sat on.

7. A seat as claimed in any preceding claim in which the bag is stitched and air can escape through the stitch holes when the seat is sat on.

8. A sack or bean bag seat substantially as herein described.

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